

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 01372 080431Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AS-01 OMB-01 ACDA-07 IO-13 CU-02
EB-07 TRSE-00 /098 W
-----097047 080659Z /13

R 080341Z JUL 77
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8141
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1372

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR CH UR

SUBJ: SINO-SOVIET NAVIGATION TALKS

REF: MOSCOW 9613

1. SOVIET EMBOFF KONDRATENKO VOLUNTEERED TO USLO OFFICER
JULY 7 THAT PRC OFFICIALS, IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR
TOLSTIKOV PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE ON HOME LEAVE, HAD
EXPRESSED THEIR INTEREST IN RESUMING THE RIVER
NAVIGATION TALKS. HE CONFIRMED REPORT REFTEL THAT
CHINESE COUCHED THEIR INITIATIVE IN TERMS OF THEIR
GENERAL INTEREST IN IMPROVING STATE-TO-STATE RELATIONS.
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2. KONDRATENKO SAID SOVIET INITIAL RESPONSE WAS TO
PROPOSE A SINO-SOVIET "JOINT ENTERPRISE" TO UNDER-
TAKEDREDGING OF THE KAZAKEVICHEVA CHANNEL IN ORDER
TO MAKE IT USABLE ALL YEAR ROUND. THE CHANNEL
CURRENTLY DRIES UP DURING SUMMER, MAKING THE ALTERNATIVE
SOVIET-CONTROLLED CHANNEL THE ONLY NAVIGABLE

PASSAGE. HE SAID CHINESE REACTION TO THE DREDGING
PROPOSAL WQS PREDICTABLY NEGATIVE.

3. COMMENT: JOINT DREDGING PROPOSAL WOULD PRESUMABLY
BE ANATHEMA TO CHINESE ON SEVERAL GROUNDS. FOR ONE
THING, IT IS REMINISCENT OF THE 1950'S WHEN SO MUCH OF
CHINESE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY WAS DEPENDENT ON SOVIET HELP
AND PARTIALLY CONTROLLED BY SOVIET ADVISERS. MORE
IMPORTANTLY, IT WOULD BE TACIT ADMISSION THAT
KAZAKEVICHEVA CHANNEL, LYING ON CHINESE SIDE OF DISPUTED
ISLAND OPPOSITE Khabarovsk, IS THE INTERNATIONAL
BOUNDARY, THUS CEDING ISLAND TO MOSCOW. FOR THESE
REASONS, FACT THAT TOLSTIKOV MADE SUCH A PROPOSAL
STRIKES US AS EVIDENCE THAT SOVIETS HAVE NO
INTEREST IN PURSUING NAVIGATION TALKS AT THIS TIME.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, BOUNDARY CLAIMS, INLAND WATERWAYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1921047
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SINO-SOVIET NAVIGATION TALKS
TAGS: PBOR, CH, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
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